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SECTION 272 SUNSETS FOR AT&T IN THE STATE OF MICHIGAN BY OPERATION OF LAW ON SEPTEMBER 17, 2006 PURSUANT TO SECTION 272(f)(1)

WC Docket No. 02-112

The provisions of section 272 (other than section 272(e)) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended (the Act), applicable to Bell Operating Company (BOC) provision of in-region, interLATA telecommunications services sunset for the operations of AT&T Inc. in the state of Michigan by operation of law as provided in section 272(f)(1), effective September 17, 2006.¹

Section 272 of the Act requires BOCs to provide in-region, interLATA telecommunications services through separate corporate affiliates, subject to certain safeguards. 47 U.S.C. § 272(a)(2). Section 272(f)(1) provides that the provisions in section 272 (other than section 272(e)) expire three years after a BOC or BOC affiliate is authorized under section 271 to provide in-region, interLATA services, unless the Commission extends such 3-year period by rule or order. 47 U.S.C. § 272(f)(1).

The Commission granted AT&T section 271 authorization for the provision of in-region, interLATA services in the state of Michigan in an order released on September 17, 2003.² Pursuant to section 272(f)(1), the provisions of section 272 (other than section 272(e)) sunset by operation of law for AT&T in the state of Michigan effective September 17, 2006.³

For further information, please contact Cecilia Seppings, Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, at (202) 418-1588.

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¹ AT&T Michigan was formerly SBC Michigan, the original applicant to provide in-region, interLATA services in Michigan. On November 17, 2005, the Commission approved a merger between SBC Communications Inc. and AT&T Corp., whereby AT&T became a wholly-owned subsidiary of SBC, which was renamed AT&T Inc. *See SBC Communications Inc. and AT&T Corp. Applications for Approval of Transfer of Control*, WC Docket No. 05-65, FCC 05-183, Memorandum Opinion and Order, 20 FCC Rcd 18290 (2005).

²See Application by SBC Communications Inc., Michigan Bell Telephone Company, and Southwestern Bell Communications Services, Inc. for Authorization to Provide In-Region, InterLATA Services in Michigan, WC Docket No. 03-138, FCC 03-228, Memorandum Opinion and Order, 18 FCC Rcd 19024 (2003).

³ See Section 272(f)(1) Sunset of the BOC Separate Affiliate and Related Requirements, WC Docket No. 02-112, Memorandum Opinion and Order, 17 FCC Rcd 26869 (2002) (finding that section 272(f)(1) is best interpreted as providing for a state-by-state sunset).